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SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 1921.

Who well lives, long lives; for this age of ours  
Should not be numbered by years, daies, and hours.  
—Du Bartas.

## President Harding.

A YEAR ago Warren G. Harding was but one of ninety-six Senators of the United States. He was known even by reputation to comparatively few of his countrymen. His personality did not obtrude itself upon public attention. Even his face was not familiar through pictorial newspaper publicity.

Today he is President of the United States with more of power, more of authority than any other ruler in the world. For four months he has been the subject of anxious consideration in every capital in the world. He has had continuous first page space in all American newspapers.

The course of international affairs has halted to learn his policies and his will. Every word he has said, every item in his daily life, his choice of his official family, the opinion of those accredited as perhaps reflecting his judgment, have been dissected as they might foretell his decisions, or his preferences.

It is such a transformation as comes only in America, and it is natural that thousands wonder how the man must feel within his inner self, when he finds himself so metamorphosed. Yet the experience of this country shows there is no spectacular change; that our Presidents have been much the same "before and after," and that great responsibilities but develop inherent powers, inborn elements of strength or weakness.

To know the real Warren G. Harding, the analyst should not go to the Senate record, nor the Presidential campaign, but to Marion, his home, a city not so large as to prevent that mutual intimacy between those of all classes which is the charm and the supreme test of American community life.

In the attitude of the people of Marion—all of them—toward Mr. Harding, and his attitude toward them; in their intercourse since his nomination and election and in his talks to them, is shown the real man. There is found that sincere affection, complete understanding and genuine admiration and loyalty, which tells more of his character than can be put in volumes.

To these people who have lived close to him from boyhood; to whom he could not pretend; he said as he left them to go to the White House:

I want to say to you, friends and neighbors, that I am going to my work with a confidence that all will be well. I believe in the security of this republic. I believe all American citizenship is true. I believe the hundred millions of Americans will be back of a right-minded Executive just as cordially as you speak your friendship here to me today. Therefore, I look on the situation with fullest confidence and I promise all Americans, that I mean to serve to the best of my ability and no man can do more. I have neither envy nor jealousy in my heart and I know I am like the great citizenship of America—there is no hatred there.

So long as President Harding remains the Warren G. Harding of Marion, Ohio—as he will—so long he cannot go far wrong. Where the sincere and genuine controls, and judgment does not yield to good fellowship and blandishments, responsibility produces real greatness.

Girls haven't lost the ability to blush. The blush simply doesn't show through.

## The Cabinet.

Twenty-four hours before taking the oath of office, President Harding completed his Cabinet by naming James J. Davis, Secretary of Labor. Mr. Harding took his own time in choosing each one of the ten of his official family. In each instance he seems to have followed his own judgment.

Comparisons are proverbially odious, but this Cabinet in ability, public confidence, the number of members of national reputation and those of high rank in their specialties, certainly measures to the standard of those of other Presidents. There has been criticism and commendation; there always has been this and doubtless always will be as to the Cabinets of Presidents.

The storm centers have been Mr. Mellon, Secretary of the Treasury, and Mr. Daugherty, Attorney General. The generator of the storm was located in the ranks of the Democrats and in that particular Democratic locality known for its abiding partisanship, without conscience behind the mask of public service.

Mr. Mellon is a banker and financier. He has won his reputation in those fields and if the United States Treasury needs to be protected from that source, he certainly knows its methods and inner workings. He has no further ambitions to gratify in private life, and is known as a man of business integrity, ability, conscience and public spirit. Possibly it is as well to try a man trained to the job in this office of Secretary of the Treasury.

From the same fountain of political ambition, and prejudice, has come the attack on Mr. Daugherty. It is charged that he is more of a politician than a lawyer. The record shows that the law firm which he heads has been uncommonly successful and he will now head a law firm on behalf of the United States government. He will have a sufficient fund to employ, as every Attorney General has done, the very best of legal talent.

Attorneys General direct the policy of the office rather than the court trials. Mr. Palmer has been very busy, but has not often appeared in court. On the other side, the President will have in Mr. Daugherty, what all Presidents must need and

practically never have. This is a man in his own official family of that quality of friend who can tell him the truth without running the risk of offending, or being misunderstood.

Most people tell a politician in office, especially a President, what it is believed he wants to hear. What he needs to be told most of all is the bald, unvarnished truth. He needs someone to tell the background and to remove the screen. Mr. Daugherty is in a position to do this and events would indicate that he does do it. And while politicians, just as politicians, are in bad repute just now, honesty in politics was never in greater demand, nor more to be desired.

This general disgust at politics as politics, and the crying demand for the highest order of leadership, is the basis of all the Cabinet criticism. The people hoped for an all-star Cabinet. They had picked their men. Possibly an all-star Cabinet would not be a workable organization. No President has ever had one; none has ever ventured so much.

The Harding Cabinet is above the general average, and may prove far more workable, and far smoother running. In sheer ability, it has seldom been equalled and certainly not excelled by any since the very earliest days of the Republic. It has a tremendous task before it, but should be equal to it. The harder the job, the truer it is that the simple, direct way is not only the easiest, but the best if not the only way to get quick and sure results.

The cry that prohibition doesn't prohibit is becoming more and more plaintive.

## Why War With Japan?

The Senate has indulged in an executive session for the first time in a long while to discuss the naval program. As usual, the gist of all that was said was published in the newspapers the following morning. According to these reports the United States must have a great navy to prevent war with Japan.

Why is there such acute danger of war with Japan, if it is true there is this danger? Certainly Japan will not go to war because of the California land laws. With all the fuss over that situation, it is but an incident. Japan's pride may be hurt, but nations do not war in these days merely over matters of offended pride.

The real cause for this fear of conflict must be looked for on the other side of the Pacific. It is next door to Japan, and not 5,000 miles away. It is in Japan's belief that only this country, of all in the world, will interfere to the point of war with her expansion to the mainland.

She has just made her first census. It shows that in old Japan there are 56,000,000 people. Including Korea, Formosa and Saghalin, there are 77,000,000. This whole region is of the least fruitful and least in natural resources of that held by and other power, great or small, as compared to population.

Japan proper is smaller than California with but 3,500,000 population. It is mountainous, as are her other island possessions, with comparatively little fertile land and wanting in coal and metals, so essential to a great power whose people would develop a diversity of industries.

Japan's struggle is for fertile regions into which her surplus of people may go and from which to draw a supply of those materials essential to her industries. She can find these on the mainland, in China and Russia. Her expansion in these directions is not hindered by the European powers; she rather has their acquiescence, if not support in her territorial ambitions.

Only the United States, as she sees it, stands in her way. Her methods as shown in Korea, are ruthless, even barbarous. She is not overburdened with conscience as shown in the Shantung case. Her treaty pledges, as Senator Lodge is reported to have said, may be valueless; they have frequently seemed to be so.

But is the United States to be the self-constituted guardian of the Far East, even to the extent of war with Japan? China has 400,000,000 people to Japan's 77,000,000. Shall the United States answer for her inherent weakness and inertia? Shall we continue to spend billions for war preparedness to protect, not ourselves, but China?

If indeed so altruistic, so willing to go the limit in blood and treasure for the helpless, we should not have deserted Armenia, nor halted at membership in the league of nations where such problems might be worked out peacefully. There are a dozen states in Europe and the Near East crying out for our help. Is only China of supreme importance and alone worthy of our sympathy and support?

There is no reasonable doubt that all this government needs to do to stop naval building with complete safety, is to concede Japan a free hand on the Asiatic mainland. She could hardly be more ruthless there than other governments have been when seeking whom they might devour.

Maybe we should not grant this and so permit across the Pacific a friendly nation with power and riches, in the years to come, equal to our own. But at least the situation may as well be put in plain terms and California not made the sole "goat."

Greed for money may get you in jail, but the possession of it will get you out again.

## The Profiteers.

February 28 was Blue Monday for a lot of persons who have paid fines or gone to jail for profiteering. It is always sad to suffer punishment and then, discover that the courts had no authority to inflict it. To profiteer, to get caught, to serve sentence and then find the law is unconstitutional, is a sequence of bitter memories.

On Monday the Supreme Court decided that the profiteering sections of the Lever law were void for indefiniteness, and so were in violation of the guarantee of "due process of law" and adequate information of the nature and cause of the accusations. This will not affect those already punished, but it stops all further prosecutions under this law.

Fortunately the critical time of the law's value is past. It is not of great importance now. It served its purpose during and since the war; but profiteering is now in liquidation, along with the rest of business. The law itself may be soon repealed as being war legislation.

"Willfully and feloniously making an unjust and unreasonable rate and charge," it is hereby made unlawful for any person to willfully make any unjust or unreasonable rate or charge in handling or dealing in or with any necessities," are two phrases of the law which were in controversy.

Any individual can amuse himself by trying to determine exactly what they mean and to apply them to a specific moot case. He can make himself the attorney for both sides and as the court can render the decision. It will be fine mental exercise.

## Views of Miss Helke-Justice in Washington

City's Censor Will What the Nation Is Thinking

### URGES UNIFIED CENSORSHIP FOR MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY.

"We must have unified censorship if we must have censorship at all," says Miss Mathele Helke-Justice, of New York City, photodramatist, who is stopping at the New Willard.

Although Miss Helke-Justice does not believe censorship of motion pictures necessary at the present time, she declares that if there is to be censorship it should be expressed in some form of legislation common to all States, and by which each and every State would be friendly to every producer, and by which every producer might be guided in his production.

"Ruthless censorship is unjust," Miss Helke-Justice said. "Our manufacturers have been called upon to spend a lavish amount of money in the past, having accepted what seemed to them good and fair stories, submitting them to the directors and production managers. All producers with few exceptions are anxious to give the public clean stories that will pass the censor."

"At the present time," Miss Helke-Justice continued, "the manufacturer does not know the probable fate of his production in the various States, for local regulations vary throughout the United States."

"There should be no further regulation of moving pictures until at least the producing factors have righted themselves."

### MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY FACES CRISIS AT PRESENT.

"The moving picture industry faces a crisis at the present time, for at present the manufacturers are at a veritable standstill, what might be called a reconstructive period. They have been kept between the devil and the deep sea," she called, by the board of censors in the various States, and because of the enormous salaries paid out in moving-picture star competition, and other outlay now found necessary in moving picture play production.

"The industry has pulled up short and called a halt, and producers are endeavoring to eliminate all superfluous stars, directors and scenario writers, waste and needless expenditure. Producers now declare that everyone in the industry will be called upon henceforth to deliver 100 per cent efficiency or leave the business."

"Moving picture censorship would be the first rung on the ladder of what Miss Helke-Justice terms 'the blue law aristocracy.'"

"We, as an industry," Miss Justice declared, "do not threaten to put the world of clerks out of existence, we wish to be friendly with them, and offer them now the hand of good-fellowship, but we shall not stand for that hand being bitten by any underhand dealing."

"We are Americans over here. Let us be natural—let us be sincere in fellowship—and let us not allow ourselves to be imposed upon by any blue laws. Each and every one of us has some manner of religion—it may be only a great religion of the heart, but it is real. Motion pictures are the people's amusement, and they are the amusement of the lawmakers, of the scholar and the man and woman of culture."

"We are calling the best brains of the literary world into the industry. Every author of the screen, I feel, is anxious to write a clean story. Every producer covets the clean play, if he can get it. We are to retire from any 'movie cleaning' by these blue law propagandists. We have had too much of their kind of cleaning already."

### WILLING TO ELIMINATE OBJECTIONABLE FEATURES.

"It is the natural instinct of the American people to respect any individual or set of individuals who hold good intentions, even if they are wrong, provided they are not to be hated or scorned. But we can no longer give these propagandists and blue law investigators the benefits of the doubt as to their real meaning. They have already destroyed the lives of many in the United States. They have killed the sociability of the nation. Now they mean to deprive the people of their innocent amusement. They should be halted before they go further."

Miss Justice says that producers are willing to eliminate features which are likely to provoke unfavorable criticism.

"Producers, however, should be more than willing with the wants of the people," Miss Justice says. "Too much has been left to the exhibitor, who strives to please his audience but does not know whether he has until the picture has been projected on the screen."

"I mingle with the audiences in the New York motion picture houses a great deal and listen to the criticisms and comments of the patrons with great interest. The cultured and discriminating chief objections seem to be on the score of such features as the stupid story covered up with an elaborate setting, a gorgeous costume. Simplicity and truth is too often lost by the director's setting."

"But for every picture we see needing censorship we see ten which do not. The industry should not be made to stop because of the faults of a few. I have been driven over this beautiful city and have seen many of the handsome, well-regulated motion-picture theaters here. They are a great asset to any city, and I say, 'Let the exhibitor live—he is doing his best. And when the industry has again reconstructed itself and it does cut down these big salaries and produce its pictures with strong, all-star casts with good stories, you will have better pictures and your theaters will be likely to lower their prices, which they are now so high as to be out of the reach of the lower class in New York.'"

E. W. G.

## COUNSEL REPLIES FOR COAL DEALERS

Leon Tobiner, counsel for the coal men who were indicted Thursday for alleged violations of the Sherman antitrust act, announced yesterday that his clients would appear Monday to give bond for their appearance when wanted at the same time characterized the indictments as "unjustified."

No bench warrants have been issued for the dealers as the District Attorney's office is content to allow them to appear on their own initiative and give bond, the amount of which will be \$2,000 each.

## Return of Henrietta Cackleberry to the Breakfast Table—Darling



## THE HERALD BOOKSHELF

### REVIEWS

### BOOKNOTES

#### WANTED: A FOOL, by Philip Curtis. (Harper and Brothers.)

An erstwhile actor returned from the war as a hero and an advertisement headed "Wanted: A Fool." His adventures, naturally, are many and hair-raising. There are so many complications and so many side-issues dragged into the story that at times it becomes arduous reading.

Producers now declare that everyone in the industry will be called upon henceforth to deliver 100 per cent efficiency or leave the business. "The industry has pulled up short and called a halt, and producers are endeavoring to eliminate all superfluous stars, directors and scenario writers, waste and needless expenditure. Producers now declare that everyone in the industry will be called upon henceforth to deliver 100 per cent efficiency or leave the business."

Frederick O'Brien, author of "White Shadows in the South Seas," is scheduled to join the Century Company's tour of the Tropics of Capricorn.

Wisdom II has already sailed, and Mr. O'Brien is scheduled to join the party in Samoa shortly. He is completing his latest book, "The Wisdom of the Tropics," which the Century Company will publish this spring. The passengers on the Wisdom II will first visit the Marquesas Islands, the scene of Mr. O'Brien's "White Shadows in the South Seas." From there they go to Samoa, Tahiti, the Fijis, the Tonga group, the Westward Islands, and then eastward on their voyage around the world.

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#### "Velvet Black" is the title of a collection of short stories, tales of mystery all of them, by Richard Washburn Child, which E. P. Dutton & Co. have in train for publication.

The author of "Robert Elmore," "The Marriage of William Ashe," and other novels of English life. Mrs. Ward devoted many years of her life to the study of English history, and the first to be published within three or four weeks, will be called "Recurring Earth-Lives—How and Why," with the sub-title, "Reincarnation Described and Explained."

Friends of the late Mrs. Humphrey Ward, in England, have appointed a committee from among themselves to raise funds for a memorial to the author of "Robert Elmore," "The Marriage of William Ashe," and other novels of English life. Mrs. Ward devoted many years of her life to the study of English history, and the first to be published within three or four weeks, will be called "Recurring Earth-Lives—How and Why," with the sub-title, "Reincarnation Described and Explained."

The Century Company reports that Dr. Stinson's "Creative Chemistry" has been reprinted again, being now in its sixty-fourth thousand. That a book on chemistry, not a "text" in any strict sense and therefore not subjected to the huge orders originating in "State adoption" and the like, should need as many printings as Congress has had sessions is certainly notable. Evidently a book on chemistry is actually being read by that legendary person, "the average man."

Hugh Walpole not long ago made an interesting announcement of a list of some twenty-odd novelists

plunging story with a remarkably original heroine. According to the publisher the novel is the literary event of the season in England where it was published about a month ago and has already gone through three large editions.

A book which should appeal particularly to ex-service men whose war-time experiences have made them discontented with office work, is "Opportunities Out-of-Doors," by Edward Owen Dean, which the Harpurs published on January 13. The rewards and requirements of such fascinating professions as forestry, landscape gardening, and tree surgery are explained in a way which, while it perhaps does not promise great wealth, will nevertheless lengthen the reader with a taste for the outdoors which his work does not permit him to indulge.

"Poe: How to Know Him," by Dr. C. Alphonso Smith, head of the Department of English in the United States Naval Academy and author of the O. Henry Biography, will be published soon by the Bobbs-Merrill Company. The author was the Poe professor of English at the University of Virginia before going to the Naval Academy, and conducted a Poe Seminar at the University of Berlin during his incumbency of the Roosevelt Exchange Professorship in Germany.

A new novel by Albert Payson Terhune, to be called "The Man in the Dark," is announced for publication soon by E. P. Dutton & Co.

In response to the popular demand for the publication of novels in paper bindings in the French style, Frederick A. Stokes Company is making an interesting experiment in bringing out Gertrude Atherton's new novel "The Sisters-in-Law" in both cloth and paper bound editions. This is Mrs. Atherton's first full-length, characteristic novel since the war began.

E. P. Dutton & Co. will initiate this month a new series of occult books under the general title "Sacred Mysteries." The first volume in the series, "The Sacred Mysteries," is in readiness of preparation to appear at intervals. They are all the work of E. Milton Willis, Fellow of the Theosophical Society, and the first to be published within three or four weeks, will be called "Recurring Earth-Lives—How and Why," with the sub-title, "Reincarnation Described and Explained."

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whom he considered the most interesting now writing in Great Britain. "It is, of course, a purely personal list," he says. "Whatever anyone may pretend, no list is ever anything else." Among others the list includes J. D. Beresford, author of "The Old Wives' Tale," H. G. Wells, Frank Swinnerton, author of "Nocturne," Sheila Kaye-Smith, author of "The Four Roads," Frederick Niven, author of "A Tale That is Told," and Virginia Woolf, author of "The Voyage Out" and "Night and Day."

"Everyone of these writers," says Mr. Walpole, "is writing to express the conviction about life that is in him, honestly, fearlessly as he sees it. Here are authors worthy, I venture to say, of standing on their shelves beside the books which the verdict of time has consecrated classics."

The Century Company has taken over from another publisher the only book by the late Jean Webster, author of "Daddy Long-Legs" and other whimsically humorous novels, which it did not already publish. The novel is "Much Ado About Peter," one of the author's earlier stories. All Miss Webster's books are now published by the Century Company.

While the United States and Japan are preparing big naval programs, Great Britain has called a halt in building plans and is examining the mass of data and reports on file with the admiralty and the numbers of books pertaining to naval operations in the late world war. Among these books is the second volume by Admiral Viscount Jellicoe, commander of the British grand fleet at Jutland, "The Crisis of the Naval War" (George H. Doran Company) in which he sounds future alarm.

As a fighter for freedom, Prince Kropotkin ranks with the Dantons and the Maximis; his literary fame is established by his "Memoirs of a Revolutionary," one of five or six great autobiographies. Peter Kropotkin is a descendant of the Grand Princes of Smolensk; he was at one time a favorite of the Czar and the grand dukes, but preferred to throw away riches and social position to endure disgrace, poverty, prison and exile. Since 1876 he has lived much of his life in London. When the revolution came he returned to Russia, but bitterly denounced the Bolsheviks as blundering tyrants. Of all the work of this long and productive life probably nothing will be more enduring than his fascinating autobiography.

#### Pictorial.

THE SEVENTH ANGEL, by Alexander Black (Harpers). A dramatic story of the post-war world.

THE FILM MYSTERY, by Arthur B. Reeve (Harpers). The latest story of Craig Kennedy, detective.

THE SAND DOCTOR, by Arnold Mulder (Houghton, Mifflin).

LITTLE MASTERPIECES OF ADVENTURE (Doubleday, Page).

A collection of adventure tales. THE ROOF TREES, by Charles Neville Buck (Doubleday, Page).

This author's latest novel of the Kentucky Mountains.

WORLD WITHOUT END, by Grant H. Overton (Doubleday, Page).

A story of old Long Island. SWEET STRANGER, by Bertha Ruck (Dodd, Mead).

## Open Court Letters to The Herald

Other Point of View on Topics of Current Interest

Writers of communications for publication in the Open Court are requested to make their contributions 200 words or less.

### MARKS PREDICTION OF HARDING'S SUCCESS.

To the Editor, The Washington Herald: I predict that today's bright, clear weather is an augury of the success of President Harding's administration. When I voted in New York on the day of election I was informed that that was his birthday on which he was elected. The temperature was mild then. The Christian people of America have long prayed for such a President as we are about to have. What he really stands in need of now the most is a strong support and devotion to Almighty God and through faith in God in his behalf as Chief Magistrate of the United States that peace will be restored to all nations of the world. J. S. GREENE.

March 4.

### ASKS ACCOUNTING ON CO-OPERATIVE STORE.

To the Editor, The Washington Herald: Please publish the following: To the members of the defunct Treasury co-operative store: As a member of the above organization, I think we are entitled to a full and complete explanation as to just how our money was expended. Who got it? How much did each member of the management get, and what did he give in return? GEO. I. KELLEY, Office of Auditor for the March 1. Treasury Department.

## Scientific Notes and Comment

### Calendar of Meetings; Activities of Societies in Washington

Biological Society, Cosmos Club, this evening, 8 o'clock. Dr. H. M. Hall, of the Carnegie Institution, will speak on "The Synthetic Method of Botanical Taxonomy."

Society for Philosophical Inquiry, Public Library, today, 4:30 o'clock. Discussion of Mr. Steele's paper on "Government as a Moral Being."

Washington Radio Club, Service Radio School, 902 Pennsylvania avenue, this evening, 8 o'clock. Reports on the Philadelphia convention by S. Kruse and H. H. Lyon.

### SCIENTISTS' UNION

#### CONSIDERS SEPARATE BRANCH.

Whether or not the Scientific-Technical Section of the Federation of Federal Employees' Union, No. 2, should be established as a separate branch is being discussed and considered. This organization of engineers and scientists in the government service is now a part of the local union.

Dr. Franklin Meyer, of the Bureau of Standards, who is president of the Scientific-Technical Section, has appointed the following committee to consider the question: Dr. H. L. Condit, Bureau of Plant Industry; chairman; L. W. Wood, Patent Office; W. L. Swanton, Reclamation Service; Miss Vera Charles, Bureau of Plant Industry; E. P. Ellis, Coast Survey; S. T. Dana, Forest Service; C. Crittenden, Bureau of Standards.

Partition of the present organization of Federal Employees' Union, No. 2, will require a change in constitution. As it is believed that such splitting up of the union into branches, according to occupational lines, will bring the individual members into closer touch, President Luther C. Steward, of the National Federation, has called a meeting of local branch officers to consider the matter this evening at union headquarters, 1423 New York avenue.

### RECLAMATION SERVICE AIDS "BACK TO FARMS."

Two score and more charming oases have sprung up in the great American desert since the work of the Federal reclamation began in 1902. Federal C. J. Blanchard, statistician of the Reclamation Service, in a talk recently at the University Club.

"Forty thousand families established independent farm homes and an equal number located in the new cities and towns evidence the worthwhileness of the task of the engineers," he declared. "As a creator of national wealth, the accomplishments have been beyond imagination. Lands embraced in reclamation projects have increased in value more than \$500,000,000, and the value of crops produced since the initiation of the work exceeds \$500,000,000. The annual crop returns from the several projects are in excess of